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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO :SAC (157-1067) DATE: 12/19/68

FROM :SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

SUBJECT:BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT
RM

On 11/26/68 Detective [redacted] Intelligence Bureau, Memphis PD, furnished copy of FBI memorandum dated 11/25/68 captioned, "Report from [redacted] for Nov. 22, 1968 and Nov. 23, 1968."

A Xerox copy of same is attached to each copy of this memorandum.

1 - 157-1067 (BOP)
1 - 157-556 (Possible Racial Violence, Major Urban Areas)
1 - 157-1423 (BUF)
1 - 100-4000 (SDS)
1 - 157-1230
1 - 157-1258
1 - 157-1626
1 - 157-1613
1 - 157-1564
1 - 157-1563
1 - 157-1553
1 - 157-135
1 - 157-
1 - 157-
1 - 157-109 (SNCC)
1 - 100-4394
1 - 157-
1 - 157-1074
1 - 100-4593
1 - 100-4562
1 - 100-4749
1 - 100-4823
1 - 100-4847
1 - 157-1234
1 - 140-918
1 - 157-1583
1 - 157-
WHL:mnr
(27)

157-1067-739

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FBI — MEMPHIS

Insp. G. P. Tines

Det. [redacted]

Report from [redacted] for Nov. 22, 1968 and Nov. 23, 1968

November 25, 1968

On Friday, Nov. 22, 1968, at Clayborn Temple in the BUF Office those present were MELVIN SMITH, WILLIE WINE, JOHN SMITH, MURRELL McCOLLOUGH, LEWIS WELCH, CHIQUITA SMITH, ROY TURNKS, and MAURICE LEWIS.

At 7:30 p.m. MELVIN SMITH, JOHN SMITH, MAURICE LEWIS, ROY TURKS, left the BUF office in MCCOLLOUGH'S car and was observed to let everyone off at Lemoyne except MELVIN SMITH and then they were followed to the Tree of Life Baptist Church where MELVIN was observed to try to see Rev. RAWSER. MELVIN did not get to see Rev. RAWSER, then they were followed back to Lemoyne College at the Student Union Building. A FC, FRANKETTA LNU, was showing everyone where COBEY SMITH, a Southwestern Student, DENNIS HENDERSON, a Lemoyne Student, WILLIE TAYLOR, a Lemoyne Student, a MC, FNU, FISHER, a Senior at Lemoyne, and WALLIE LNU, a student at Lemoyne, was active in the sanitation strike, and supposedly went to Melrose or Douglass, DON STONE, who appears to be from SNCC, but this is not known for sure, but this is just what WINE said about STONE being from SNCC.

As the meeting started the student named FISHER was for settling the grieviences had drawn up, but he did not want to have any violence in this. He stated that we do not have enough students to do this. He stated that we could settle this without having any trouble. MELVIN SMITH was overheard to say that he wanted to kill Crackers and Uncle Toms. COBEY SMITH then stated that they had enough students to this and they could do anything they wanted to.

At approx. 8:15 p.m. WILLIE WINE, LEWIS WELCH, DONALD PIGFORD, and CHIQUITA SMITH came in when FISHER was still talking and he felt the problem was internal and they did not want the help of outsiders. DON STONE then said this is small and a black revolution is going on all over the United States and that you will need help of the outsiders. He states that you will need the help of the community and everyone that you can get to help you. It was observed that DON STONE left with COBEY SMITH. WINE said to the group "We are the Invaders and the black people's army". We are going to help you whether you want us to or not. At this time DENNIS HENDERSON took over the meeting and appeared to be the leader. He told WINE we want you and the Invaders here and we need all the help we can get. WILLIE TAYLOR then stated we are getting 20 MC's together to protect all of the students that take part in the demonstrations.

One of the reasons for getting these 20 MC's together was that they stated on Friday, when they had a demonstration that a MW, HAYNES or HAYES, an instructor at Lemoyne had stepped on a FC at one of the demonstrations and that the 20 MC's, whom they would select would be able to take care of anyone who did something like this to one of the demonstrators. It was also overheard that ROY TURKS had taken this same MW, HAMES HAYNES or HAYES name down . DENNIS HENDERSON, who appeared to be the leader, stated that at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, the 25th, that they would break up into different groups and disrupt school and classes and do anything that they could to cause trouble. DENNIS HENDERSON stated that at 10:30 a.m. at the students break that they were going to have what they call a dance in. This would disrupt classes and harass the facility administration. At 4:40 p.m. the facility was to have a meeting in the Tiber library and during this meeting the students are going to take their grievences to the facility at this meeting and if they don't get an answer from the facility on these grievences they are going to lock the facility in the library and not let them out. But it appears that the facility might know about their plan at the library so the students will go where ever the facility have their meeting.

On Sat. Nov. 23, 1968, at 2:00 p.m. on the Memphis State Campus there was nothing going on, but at approx. 3:00 p.m., MERRELL McCOLOUGH, and MORGAN McCRAW were seen to leave the Memphis State Campus and go to the BUF office at Clayborn Temple. In front of the Temple a student of Lemoyne College was talking about what they had planned for Monday, the 25th. At this time MERRELL McCOLLOUGH and MORGAN McCRAW were seen to leave the Temple and MORGAN got off at Vance and Hernando, then MERRELL McCOLLOUGH was followed to LAURA INGRAM'S house on Summerville. Those present at LAURA'S were LAURA, CYNTHIA BERMAN, JOHN GARDNER, JOHN ASH, ANN TWIGGS, CATHLINE SUMMERALL, MURIEL PATTERSON, and a FW, FRAN LNU, 5'3", 95 lbs., medium brown hair, and has been at LAURA'S before. CATHLINE SUMMERALL wanted to know why ROY TURKS had called her and told her to be at the Claybron Temple at 5:30 p.m. She wanted to know what was so important about this.

At 4:45 p.m. JAMES EARL GAYLORD came by LAURA'S and stated that he had been contacted and by TURKS and that he wanted him to come to the Temple also. GAYLORD had his wife with him. GAYLORD then left going to the Temple. At approx. 5:00 p.m. LAURA INGRAM, JOHN GARDNER, ANN TWIGGS, KITTY SUMMERALL, came to the BUF Office. Those present were WILLIE WINE, ROY TURKS, LEWIS WELCH, CHIQUITA SMITH, MERRELL McCOLLOUGH, JOHN SMITH, and MARLINE a FC and CORNBREAD "ROBERT WILSON". WINE talked to this group about what they had planned for Lemoyne College on Monday the 25th about the grievences.

They wanted the SDS to help them in the demonstrations planned for Lemoyne College. He stated that they had planned to get the facility locked in the library and that SDS could bring the food to them. Everyone agreed to this. It was found that TED CARTER had planned the meeting of the SDS at 3:30 p.m. on Monday Nov. 25th, at Memphis State. GAYLORD stated that he was going to bring up this matter at the meeting and he was positive that everyone would go along with this. WINE thenxx stated that these students are depending on the SDS.

At 6:30 p.m. it was overheard that JOHN SMITH ask MERRELL McCOLLOUGH to take him and get some smoke bombs, to the Blue Light Cafe on Springdale and there they were observed to pick up a MC named COOL BREEZE, who looks like MICHAEL MOUNTAIN and another MC named TOM. They were observed to leave the cafe and were followed to CHU'S Market on Jackson near Spring Street. And they went in there but it is unknown if they got any smoke bombs. They then were followed back to the BUF office at Clayborn Temple.

Information is that JOHN SMITH, lives on or near the corner of Vollentine and Hollywood. It appears to be a white house and that also JOHN SMITH had lived in Los Angles for approx. 20 years, but was born in Memphis, Tennessee. It was also found that COOL BREEZE and TOM were talking about the robbery of the liquor store on Springdale. They stated the witness knew all three MC's who robed this store but he just identified one of them.

Information is that WINE stated that they would not be allowed on Lemoyne Campus until 5:30 p.m. Information is that Dr. PRICE of Lemoyne is going to call the police if WINE and his group come to the campus before then. LEROY BLEDSOE and ROBERT WEBSTER are being seen regularly at the BUF office at Clayborn Temple. The Invaders are carrying a stick with a chain with a ball on the end of it and this ball has spikes in it. Most of the time CORNBREAD or ROBERT WILSON, LEWIS WELCH or JOHN SMITH carries this. Also one of the MC's has a machette approx. 3 ft. long that they are carrying.

Clayborn

In the BUF office, in ~~Clayborn~~ Temple ROBERT WEBSTER had a 12 gag. single ~~shotx~~ shot shotgun and also they have a sawed off 22 rifle, this ball and chain, the machette and ROBERT TAYLOR has a 22 pistol. Also ROBERT WEBSTER stated that he could get some guns.